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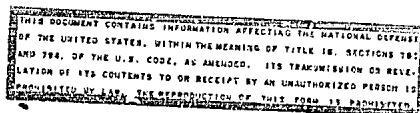
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GENERAL DIRECTIVE ON SUMMER CROPS

The Minister of Agriculture of the Central People's Government issued a general directive 1 June 1952 regarding summer crop production. The directive dealt with insect pest control, drought and flood prevention, cultivation practices, animal husbandry, and fisheries.

An article in the Anhui Jih-pao tells of difficulties encountered in carrying out insect pest control measures due to the inertia and superstitions of the people.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ISSUES DIRECTIVE -- Tientsin Jih-pao, 2 Jun 52

In a directive issued 1 June 1952 on the subject of summer agricultural production by the Minister of Agriculture of the Central People's Government, the minister emphasized the following matters:

1. Cut-worm infestation of wheat fields was more widespread in the spring of 1952 than during several years past. Despite strong measures against the cut worms, crop production was reduced in some areas. As a result, it is necessary to emphasize unrelenting antipest and antidisease measures. In spring wheat areas, immediate attention should be given to eradicating smut wherever it is found.
2. Our instructions of May 1952 on drought and flood prevention must be carried out.
3. Campaigns must be carried on among the people to develop their agricultural skills, to encourage weed destruction, to promote collection and better use of fertilizers, and to encourage repairs to homes and farm buildings.
4. The health of farm animals should be carefully guarded. Young animals require special care. Selective breeding and prevention of animal diseases are important. Hog cholera and hoof-and-mouth disease are diseases particularly prevalent in summer. Hay for winter feeding should be cut in summer. Where wild hay is not available, alfalfa should be grown.

- 1 -

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5. Fishermen have leisure in summer and this period should be capitalized by carrying out educational measures. Fishing co-operatives now existing should be improved and expanded. Fishermen should be encouraged to use their leisure time in mending nets and repairing boats.

6. Rural co-operatives should be guided along right lines and expanded.

Aggressive leadership in the above matters will encourage active participation of the broad masses in the nationwide movement for patriotic production increase.

PEASANTS REPORTED INDIFFERENT TO INSECT PEST CONTROL, -- Ho-fai, Anhwei Jih-pao, 2, 3 Jun 52

Many cadres and people in Anhwei have been regarding with indifference damage wrought to pine timber by worms. They hold superstitions beliefs that heaven sends such calamities and that in its own good time heaven will remove the pests. In other areas farmers have regarded white butterflies flying over the rice fields as omens of a good crop. It required considerable ingenuity and scientific demonstration to convince them that the apparently harmless butterflies were really progenitors of destructive insect pests. Rhyming slogans which the farmers are taught to keep repeating have been found to be effective in combating their natural inertia in such matters.

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- 2 -

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